

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons For Allowance

1. Claims 1 and 3-27 allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The applicant's amendment filed on 02/26/2010 in conjunction with the remarks have been reviewed by the examiner in view of prior art of record of He et al. (US 2004/0001450 A1), and it is agreed that the prior art of record does not teach the amended independent claim 1, as the claimed limitation of "generating a first step vector adapted to improve the filter coefficient vector, as if the second signal is not affected by interference; generating a second step vector depending on said measure of interference; and selecting the step vector from the first and second vectors, wherein the selected step vector is the smallest of the first and second step vectors". Prior art He teaches an adaptive echo canceller that generates a single step vector for the adaptive process of echo cancellation and stopped the adaptive process in the presence of interference. Prior art He fails to teach as in where generating two step vectors and selecting the smallest of the two step vectors. Examiner fails to discover any new prior art teaches "generating two step vectors and selecting the smallest of the two step vectors" of an echo canceller. Independent claims 9, 15 and 22 were also allowed since claims 9, 15 and 22 also included the same allowable claimed limitation as cited in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2614

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SIMON KING whose telephone number is (571)270-1950. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, FAN TSANG can be reached on (571)272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

01 June, 2010

/SIMON KING/
Examiner, Art Unit 2614

/Fan Tsang/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614